

Youth Safety Strategy Action Plan

This action plan sets out the actions that we will take as a partnership in order to deliver the priorities that are identified in the Youth Safety Strategy. It will assist in our pursuit of the elimination of the risk factors that make our children and young people vulnerable to becoming involved in youth safety matters and in reducing the prevalence and level at which they are exploited and coerced into criminal activity. The action plan provides the overview of the areas that we will focus on to make sure that we keep as many of our children and young people safe within our preventative, responsive and integrated model of support (for young people from 0-25) at all levels of risk. This is outlined within the context of our eight overarching objectives and eight core activities.

This action plan will be updated and reviewed at regular intervals in order to demonstrate progress and impact in relation to our determination to keep our children and young people safe.

Our objectives:

1. Protect children and young people from violence, abuse and exploitation
2. Foster stronger and safer communities, public spaces and schools
3. Safeguard children and young people and support families, parents and carers
4. Build the resilience of Islington’s children and young people
5. Secure school inclusion and maximise academic and vocational achievement
6. Addressing inequality and disproportionality within the youth and criminal justice system
7. Reduce re-offending for those children and young people who have become more persistent in their offending behaviours
8. Empower communities to create a safer environment for all, but especially for children

Activity / Report	Date compiled:	Date of this update:	Service Area and person completing this:	Date of Review
Youth Safety Action Plan	November 2020	Not Applicable (NA)	Curtis Ashton / Catherine Briody	To be reviewed and monitored every quarter at the Youth Justice Services Management Board

1. Prevention

Preventing children and young people from becoming involved in offending and criminality in the first place is essential to the partnership. We aim to ensure that all children, young people and families who are experiencing difficulties and/or who are at risk of exploitation are able to access and receive effective support at the earliest possible opportunity. This will prevent any further escalation and the need for more specialist services and interventions later on.

The following actions confirm what we will focus on in relation to the prevention strand of our strategy:

Prevention Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
Further develop trauma-informed practice across the borough by providing and increasing participation in training for practitioners working with children and young people in a range of settings including schools, early years settings, VCS organisations and the Police	Safeguarding, CAMHS, Youth and Community departments, School Improvement (Primary and Secondary) within the People directorate	Youth Justice Services Management Board Islington Children’s Safeguarding board	July 2021	1 – 6 8
Design and launch a new universal youth model and offer that is more inclusive of all of our children and young people, more responsive to their needs and able to provide additional support to ‘hotspot’ areas within the borough (that may have higher levels of need)	Youth and Community and Fairer Together	Youth Justice Services Management Board	October 2021	1 – 4 6 8
Use community engagement meetings and events to empower and support communities to lead and develop initiatives to keep young people and local areas safe. This will also involve establishing Peer Support networks for parents/carers which may increase resilience	Arsenal in the Community, Voluntary Action Islington, Islington Faith forum, Metropolitan Police, Youth and Community, Safer Neighborhood Board	Safer Islington Partnership Board Youth Justice Services Management Board	December 2020/Ongoing	1 – 4 6 8

Prevention Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
Remodel our child and family support services by moving them into Fairer Together’s locality based model	All agencies	Fairer Together Borough Partnership Board	March 2021	1 - 8
Ensure that our powerful and emotive knife crime prevention film – produced by the ‘Love and Lost’ group of bereaved parents/families - is used as an educative tool in the PHSE curriculum of secondary schools, Pupil Referral Units and beyond	School Improvement Service (Secondary), The council’s communication team, Youth and Community, Love and Loss group, Police, Violence Reduction Unit, Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime	Youth Justice Services Management Board	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 – 4 8
Hold a special annual event to remember the young people and adults who have been killed through knife crime and/or Serious Youth Violence which will include the Love and Lost group	Community Safety, Youth and Community, Police	Safer Islington Partnership Youth justice Services Management Board	March 2021	1 - 8

2. Identification

The identification of children and young people who are at risk of youth safety issues is crucial so that the partnership can help them and prevent any deterioration in their circumstances.

Identification Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
<p>Use predictive analysis processes (in line with GDPR) to help us identify children, young people and families who may be in need of support e.g. via reviewing and acting upon data in relation to persistent absenteeism from school</p> <p>Use predictive analysis to identify those young people who are likely to become reoffenders and to target and support them with robust packages</p>	Fairer Together, Safeguarding, Education, Schools, Youth and Community, Police	<p>Islington Children’s Safeguarding Board</p> <p>Youth Justice Services Management Board</p>	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 - 8
Deliver youth safety awareness workshops across all primary and secondary schools, and community settings, so that professionals and residents are better able to identify young people who are at risk and to refer them to the appropriate agency	Youth and Community, Safeguarding	<p>Islington Children’s Safeguarding Board</p> <p>Youth Justice Services Management Board</p>	Jan 2021 - ongoing	1 – 6 8
Arrange regular communications campaigns for the community and via online and social media forums so that our residents are aware of the indicators that can suggest that children and young people may be at risk. They will also be made aware of the mechanisms and processes that exist to inform the professional network of such concerns	Youth and Community/ Communications Team	Youth Justice Services Management Board	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 – 6 8
Work with the partnership and the community to ensure that identification services captures all of our children and the most vulnerable groups	Safeguarding, Youth and Community	Youth Justice Services Management Board	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 - 8

Identification Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
(including young women and girls and Black and minority groups) as covered in section 4.4				

3. Engagement

Maximising engagement with children and young people is crucial to our strategy. It is important to ensure that young people feel able to engage with a professional or organization in order to receive the support that they need.

Engagement Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
Devise and implement action plans in relation to the specific groups identified in the strategy that we need to strengthen our engagement with e.g. Black and minority ethnic groups (similar to the principles of our Somali community action plan)	Safeguarding, Youth and Community departments within the People directorate	Youth Justice Services Management Board Islington Children's Safeguarding board	July 2021	1 – 6 8
All Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) services to be monitored to ensure an improvement in equality of access for different groups including those who are under-represented (e.g. those from certain minority ethnic backgrounds).	CAMHS	Health and Wellbeing Board Youth Justice Services Management Board	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 – 6 8
Carry out an interventions review with young people to ensure that the appropriate methods and tools are being used to engage with children and	Youth and Community	Youth Justice Services Management Board	April 2021	1 – 6 8

Engagement Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
young people who find it more difficult to access services and support	Youth Council and You Lead projects			
Engage parents and carers through projects such as the Violence Reduction Unit Parental Support initiative to increase capacity for parents and carers to keep their children safe and create peer networks of support among families	Youth and Community	Youth Justice Services Management Board	Dec 2020 – Sept 2021	1 – 6 8
Maximise the 100 hours World of Work offer, guaranteeing all young people 100 hours and 11 by 11 experience of industry-led world of work activity by age 16, with a tailored offer targeted at vulnerable groups	Employment, Skills and Culture	Employment Board Youth Justice Services Management Board	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 – 6 8
Enhance Post 16 transition support for vulnerable or 'at risk' young people and those who have become NEET, with one to one wraparound support including Information, Advice and Guidance on post 16 pathways	Employment, Skills and Culture Youth and Community	Employment Board Youth Justice Services Management Board	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 – 6 8
Further develop Youth Employability and Skills (YES) programmes for vulnerable young people aged 18-25 with a package of coaching, skills tuition, paid work experience and therapeutic interventions	Employment, Skills and Culture Youth and Community	Employment Board Youth Justice Services Management Board	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 – 6 8
Encourage and support local businesses and employers to offer apprenticeship, training and employment opportunities to our young people	Employment, Skills and Culture Youth and Community	Employment Board Youth Justice Services Management Board	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 – 6 8

4. Diversion

We want our diversion methods to be as effective as possible in order to keep those children and young people, who may have experienced some personal challenges, on the right path.

Diversion Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
Identify good practice via projects like Divert, alongside Police colleagues, which promote pathways to education, apprenticeships, employment and desistance from offending for those who are accused of, or involved in, low level offending following presentation at custody suites.	Youth and Community, Police	Youth Justice Services Management Board	July 2021	1 – 6 8
Enhance the mentoring offer for the children and young people who we have identified as being at greater risk, including young women and girls	Youth and Community, Arsenal in the Community, Voluntary sector organisations	Youth Justice Services Management Board	July 2021	1 - 8
Review the triage system to maximise the effective identification of young people who are eligible for an intervention of this type and prevent unnecessary criminalisation	Youth and Community, Police	Youth Justice Services Management Board	April 2021	1 – 6 8
Work with parents and carers, especially those deemed to be vulnerable, to effectively engage young people in diversionary activities and education and prevent harm.	Youth and Community, Safeguarding, Police	Youth Justice Services Management Board	April 2021	1 - 8
Work with the community and voluntary sector, placing them at the heart of the approach to violence reduction, by ensuring a wide range of	Arsenal in the Community, Voluntary Action Islington, Islington Faith forum,	Safer Islington Partnership Board	December 20/Ongoing	1 - 8

Diversion Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
opportunities and services are on offer for young people and families in Islington	Metropolitan Police, Youth and Community, Safer Neighborhood Board	Youth Justice Services Management Board		
Focus on the diversion of targeted groups of young people and those on the periphery of group/gang offending through mediation and de-escalation methods Mediation techniques to also be used for persistent reoffenders and groups of more entrenched offenders	St Giles Trust, Youth and Community, Police and Community Safety	Safer Islington Partnership Board Youth Justice Services Management Board	March 2021	1 - 8
Create new programmes and interventions for young people at risk of offending which embody football/sport activities, mentoring/coaching and accredited courses	Arsenal in the Community, Youth and Community	Youth Justice Services Management Board	April 2021	1 - 8
Work with HMP Pentonville to create deterrent-based interventions	Youth and Community, HMP Pentonville	Youth Justice Services Management Board	April 2021	1 - 8

5. Support

One of our most important duties, as a partnership, is to support children, young people, families and communities and to help them thrive. This support must be provided whenever it is needed and for the most vulnerable.

Support Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
Additional casework and targeted interventions will be put in place for children with persistent absence at school and those who are at risk of exclusion, or who have been excluded	Youth and Community Learning and Schools, School Improvement	Youth Justice Services Management Board Islington Children's Safeguarding board	July 2021	1 - 8
The Council will implement the recommendations from Children's Services Scrutiny Committee's review of fixed and permanent exclusions, working across the partnership with schools, New River Pupil Referral Unit, parents, and pupils to reduce exclusions further still.	Learning and Schools, School Improvement Youth and Community	Youth Justice Services Management Board Children's Services Scrutiny Committee	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 - 8
Enhance our methodological evidence base and understanding of matters related to youth safety and re-offending by carrying out a third academic project with City University. This ethnographic and qualitative project will be focused on one of the most deprived wards in the borough.	Youth and Community, City University	Youth Justice Services Management Board	July 2021	1 - 8
Extend the SEMH pathway offer from 18 to 25 years, which enables young people to continue to receive appropriate support whilst transitioning into adulthood.	CAMHS	Health and Wellbeing Board Islington Children's Safeguarding Board	July 2021	1 - 8

Support Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
		Youth Justice Services Management Board		
Expand and embed our work and programmes with vulnerable children who are transitioning from primary to secondary school	Youth and Community, Learning and Schools	Youth Justice Services Management Board	Dec 2020 – Mar 2022	1 - 8
Establish a Youth Safety Delivery group composed of statutory organisations and community partners working alongside young people and parents/carers to assess our progress, and drive the improvements needed to ensure our young people remain safe. Appoint a young person to co-chair the Youth Safety Delivery group	Youth and Community Youth Council/You Lead, Safer Neighborhood Board	Youth Justice Services Management Board	Jan 2021	1 - 8
Develop peer-support activities and establish peer support networks for young people and for parents/carers.	Youth and Community	Youth Justice Services Management Board	Jan 2021	1 - 8
Promote positive messages and events celebrating the achievements of our young people – co produced with young people	Youth Council/You- Lead group/Communications Team	Youth Justice Services Management Board	April 2021	1 - 8
Work with schools and education providers to eliminate the gap in attainment for groups who are not fulfilling their full potential academically	School Improvement (Primary and Secondary), Youth and Community, Safeguarding	Youth Justice Services Management Board	June 2021	1 - 8
Enhance transitions processes for young people/adults who are transferring from the Youth	Youth and Community, National Probation Service	Youth Justice Services Management Board,	December 2020/Ongoing	1 - 8

Support Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
Offending Service to the adult sphere ensuring that interventions remain robust and effective		Safer Islington Partnership Board		

6. Protection

The protection of our children, young people and families is also paramount. The better the partnership is at this, the more children and young people will be protected from youth safety issues.

Protection Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
Strengthen the work with other local authorities, partners such as Rescue and Response and the Home Office to improve outcomes for children and young people who have been exploited and coerced into modern day slavery	Community Safety, Safeguarding, Youth and Community departments	Youth Justice Services Management Board Islington Children's Safeguarding board	July 2021	1 - 8
Work with the Modern Slavery Unit to expand the Independent Child Trafficking Guardian (ICTG) service into London to ensure that we maximise the level of protection for children affected by this.		Safer Islington Partnership Board		
Produce multi-agency action plans in relation to Serious Case Reviews (such as those for Child P) and ensure that learning and key lessons are embedded across the partnership	Safeguarding	Islington Children's Safeguarding Board	July 2021	1 - 8

Protection Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
Continue to commission specialist services to work with girls/young women and boys and young men who are at risk of sexual and criminal exploitation	Youth and Community	Youth Justice Services Management Board	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 - 8
Continue to reduce waiting lists for children and young people who need support with their social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing and increase the number of them who have a first appointment with a SEMH service within 4 weeks or less	CAMHS	Health and Wellbeing Board Youth Justice Services Management Board Islington Children's Safeguarding Board	December 2020/Ongoing	1 - 8
Increase support to children, young people and families experiencing domestic abuse to help them to recover and repair from the trauma they have experienced. To include development of new specialist services including a Children's IDVA, Sunflower project in schools and YUVA working with families affected by child to parent violence. This will be supported by the delivery of a comprehensive Violence against Women and Girls Workforce and Practice Development programme across the Islington workforce Work will also take place to increase the access of vulnerable parents to substance misuse and mental health services	Youth and Community Safeguarding, Youth and Community, Community Safety	VAWG Strategic Board, Islington Children's Safeguarding Board, Youth Justice Services Management Board Adults Safeguarding Board	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 - 8
Carry out research and engage with young people to understand more about the impact of social media and its role in serious youth violence and	Youth and Community Youth Council/You-participation group Lead/Public Health	Youth Justice Services Management Board	April 2021	1 – 6 8

Protection Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
offending. This will help to guide practice and our strategic response				
Work with youth work projects at Emergency Departments in hospitals e.g. through St Giles Trust and Red Thread, to help reach and support young people through teachable moments when they have been the victim of violence	Youth and Community, Public Health, Clinical Commissioning Trust	Youth Justice Services Management Board	April 2021	1 - 8

7. Disruption

The disruption of criminality is a key priority in our pursuit of a better society for our children, young people and communities. We aspire to disrupt all types of offending at the earliest opportunity, but particularly those offences which can cause the most harm.

Disruption Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
Develop engagement events and opportunities which aim to strengthen and improve the relationship between young people, parents and the police and other partners. This will provide the community with the confidence to share relevant information that will facilitate the disruption of criminality within the community	Youth and Community, Arsenal in the Community, Youth Council, You Lead, Police	Youth Justice Services Management Board Safer Islington Partnership Board	July 2021	1 - 8
Continue to improve information sharing processes across the partnership to maximise opportunities for the safeguarding of young people and the disruption of criminal activity	All agencies	Youth Justice Services Management Board	December 2020/Ongoing	1 - 8

Disruption Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
		Safer Islington Partnership Board		
Extend the use of 'Achilles Heel' tactics (where repeat offenders and more serious offenders are targeted) as a partnership strategy to strengthening community safety	Police, Community Safety, Youth and Community	Safer Islington Partnership Board	December 2020/Ongoing	1 - 8
Further promote the mechanisms that exist to allow residents to anonymously report crime via third parties or other systems. We will also continue to promote our domestic abuse services and children's safeguarding services within the community.	Police, Communication team	Safer Islington Partnership Board Youth Justice Services Management Board Islington Children's Safeguarding Board	January 2021/Ongoing	1 - 8
The Police and Council will identify the most effective locations for additional knife bins and install them where appropriate.	Community Safety, Police	Safer Islington Partnership Board	April 2020/Ongoing	1 - 8
The areas most affected by knife crime will be supported via weapon sweeps focused on strengthening the overall safety	Community Safety, Police	Safer Islington Partnership Board	December 2020/Ongoing	1 - 3 7 8
Extensive CCTV coverage, live monitoring and recording will be put in place across the borough focusing on key high harm and violent hotspots	Community Safety, Police	Safer Islington Partnership Board	December 2020/Ongoing	1 - 4 7 8
Further develop comprehensive community safety partnership action plans in geographical areas of concern to address drug dealing, crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in hotspot areas	Community Safety, Police, Youth and Community	Safer Islington Partnership Board	December 2020/Ongoing	1 - 4 7 8

Disruption Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
		Youth Justice Services Management Board		

8. Enforcement and Prosecution

This strategy has been clear about the significance of safeguarding, support and protection principles. It is equally important to ensure that the most serious offenders are shown that the partnership and the law will not tolerate such behavior and will do what it can to protect the public.

Enforcement and Prosecution Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
Explore best practice and ensure that robust, intensive and multi-agency packages of support are in place for these young people who are persistent re-offenders	All agencies	Youth Justice Services Management Board Islington Children's Safeguarding board	July 2021	1 - 8
Maximise the use of joint home visits and appointments between the Police and case holding services to the highest risk offenders	Youth and Community, Police	Youth Justice Services Management Board Safer Islington Partnership Board	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 - 8
Launch a new multi-agency gangs panel which will focus on group offending intelligence and disruption via a locality based response. This panel and approach will also include the formulating of our approach to cross-borough working and gangs issues	Youth and Community, Police, Community Safety, Housing	Youth Justice Services Management Board Safer Islington Partnership Board	Dec 2020	1 - 8

Enforcement and Prosecution Action	Lead services/organisations	Governance group/s	Timescale	Overarching Objective (1 – 8)
Increase the use of Intensive Supervision and Surveillance (ISS) via the YOS as an alternative to custody for children and young people and newer monitoring systems such as the Global Positioning System (GPS) tracker	Youth and Community	Youth Justice Services Management Board	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 - 8
Increase enforcement processes on those who are identified as being instrumental in the running of the drugs market and in the exploitation of children	Youth and Community, Community Safety, Police	Youth Justice Services Management Board Safer Islington Partnership Board	Dec 2020/Ongoing	1 – 3 7 8
Rehome those who have been prosecuted for such offences out of the borough	Youth and Community, Community Safety, Police, Housing	Youth Justice Services Management Board Safer Islington Partnership Board	Dec 2020 - ongoing	1 - 8